

The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1897.

二拜禮 號九月二英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM.

100

Intimation.

CHOICE AUSTRALIAN WINES
FROM THE CELEBRATED
COOLALTA VINEYARDS,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE COOLALTA WINES which we are introducing here for the first time give an exceptional opportunity to Wine Connoisseurs to sample really HIGH CLASS AUSTRALIAN WINES of low alcoholic strength.

COOLALTA WINES cannot be surpassed for their absolute Purity, High and Even Quality, Boreness, and soft delicate flavoring; and, being the natural product of the grape, they are specially recommended by the Medical Faculty of New South Wales.

COOLALTA WINES have obtained the HIGHEST AWARDS at all the principal International Exhibitions of the World.

A careful Analysis of these Wines was recently made by the Government of New South Wales. They were found to be PERFECTLY PURE, SOUND AND THOROUGHLY FERMENTED WINES.

SAMPLES may be had FREE on application to

W. O. CAMPBELL, Hongkong Hotel.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1897. [245]

Today's Advertisements.

We Shall our Colors to the Mast.
Our Watchword, No Surrender.
EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK
WILLSON'S CIRCUS.

This Solid Show, backed up by BRAINS, ENERGY, and Cold Cash. Standing Poles and alone on an 80ft Tower among all Piquant Initiators, believing we have the sincere sympathy of the entire community of Hongkong, We brook no difficulty nor do we care for Expense, and in pursuance of this motto we have much pleasure in announcing the

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT
of the IMPERIAL TROUP OF JAPANESE in their Wonderful Balancing, Juggling, Mystical Magic, &c.

The CEYLON SACRED BULLS, and many New and Novel Acts, FIRST APPEARANCE of the DE VERE BROTHERS, In their Sensational Dare-All act entitled "LOS NIBLOS."

Flying through space from one end of the Mammoth Marquee to the other, A TRULY MARVELOUS ACT.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, OUR TIRD MATINEE for the Benefit of the INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND. The entire proceeds will be handed over to the Fund.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHTS, GREAT BOXING CONTEST for a Prize of £50. FIGHT TO A FINISH.

THURSDAY NIGHT ANOTHER CHANGE "THE SCULPTOR'S DREAM." Classical Groupings of Ancient and Modern Statuary.

FRIDAY NIGHT SECOND FASHIONABLE EVENING. Under Distinguished Patronage.

SATURDAY 2-PERFORMANCES-2 Expected shortly NEW ARTISTS. PLAN AT ROBINSON'S.

BERT WILLSON, Hongkong, 8th February, 1897. [248]

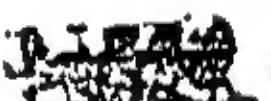
THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above COMPANY will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 4, Praya Central, at 12 o'clock (NOON), on TUESDAY, the 23rd February, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1896.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 23rd February, both days (inclusive).

EDWARD OSBORNE, Secretary.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1897. [249]



STEAM LAUNCH FOR SALE.

TENDERS will be received at this OFFICE up to NOON on MONDAY, the 22nd instant, for the PURCHASE of the War Department Steam Launch "TOMMY ATKINS," with Engines, Boilers and Stores Complete, as she lies on the COSMOPOLITAN DOCK SLIPWAY, where she may be inspected any day between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M.

Tenders must be made on Forms which, together with any further information required, can be obtained on application at this Office.

HEADQUARTER OFFICE B, Commercial Buildings.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1897. [250]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

JAPAN-EUROPE LINE.

MONTHLY SERVICE.

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, PORT SAID, MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Company's Chartered Steamship

"STRATHAY,"

Commander McKenna, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 12th instant, at Noon, instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA, Hongkong, 9th February, 1897. [250]

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship "PERU,"

are hereby notified that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk in the Company's Godowns at Wharfedale, from whence delivery may be obtained on countersignature of Bills of Lading.

Goods remaining unclaimed after the 16th February will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1897. [251]

Today's Advertisements.

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY.

A LADY wishing to go HOME will take care of ONE or TWO CHILDREN on the voyage or act as Companion to an invalid in return for her passage. Can speak FRENCH and GERMAN.

Refer to B, c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1897. [252]

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & COMPANY, VICTORIA DISPENSARY, HONGKONG.

AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a duly qualified English Chemist and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, RESTAURANTS and other Large Consumers.

Any complaints should be addressed to the Manager.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1897. [253]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph," and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor," and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

What the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the fair discussion of all questions affecting the public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE AND SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London House, bought direct at first hand, imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply the best goods at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month before use. When required for drinking at once it should be ordered to be decanted at the DISPENSARY before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner Wines of very superior Vintages. All are true Xeres Wines.

CLARET.—Our Clarets, including the lowest priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape and are not artificially made from raisins and currants; and is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY.—All our Brandy is guaranteed to be pure COGNAC, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKEY.—All our Whiskey is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY marked "A" is universally popular, and is pronounced by the best local connoisseurs to be superior to any other brand in the Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our WINE and SPIRITS to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1896. [6]

BIRTHS.

At "The Haven," 10, Seewoo Road, Shanghai, on the 30th ultimo, the wife of Mr. E. C. PRACE, of a son.

On the 31st ultimo, at 8, Sans Souci Terrace, Shanghai, the wife of Mr. A. D. LOW, of a daughter.

At Hankow, on the 31st ultimo, the wife of C. S. ADAMS, of a daughter.

At Chienkiang, on the 1st instant, the wife of T. W. BOWMAN, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Shanghai, on the 30th ult., by the Rev. Father Leuval, S.J., ROZENDO CARMO DA SILVA SOUZA to ANTONIA MARIA D'OLIVEIRA.

At Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 4th instant, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., assisted by the Rev. G. G. Walker, ALICE HENRIETTA, eldest daughter of J. A. POW, Esq., of Shanghai, to FREDERICK LESLIE CROMPTON, of Shanghai.

At the British Consulate, Nagasaki, and at the English Church, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Ewington, D.D., W. G. BENNETT (Messrs. Holme Ringer & Co.) to HANNA, the only daughter of T. B. Glover, Nagasaki.

DEATH.

At Hankow, on the 27th ultimo, ALAN PRICE, aged 14 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1897.

TELEGRAMS.

(Special to Hongkong Telegraph.)

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

SINGAPORE, February 9th.

The epidemic of bubonic plague is increasing to an alarming extent in Bombay.

THE FAMINE FUND.

Over one million rupees have been subscribed to the Famine Fund in India.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

GREAT BRITAIN AND EGYPT.

LONDON, February 7th.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in moving an Egyptian vote of £798,807, which the House of Commons adopted, said that the necessity of making an advance in the Sudan was likely to prolong the British occupation of Egypt, the main cause of which prolongation would be the refusal of France to allow Great Britain a free hand. Great Britain regards an advance in the Nile Valley as necessary, and will not be worried out of its policy by hindrances such as the refusal of money.

THE FRENCH PRESS EXCITED.

The French press is excited and regards the above as an open defiance of France and Russia. M. Hanotaux has promised a statement in this connection on Monday.

EGYPT FIRM.

The Egyptian Government has replied to France and Russia that she is legally entitled to accept a British loan.

(From Diario de Manila.)

THE WAR IN CUBA.

MADRID, February 1st.

General Weyler has reported by wire that the work of pacification in Cuba is being rapidly effected. There is now very little more to do in the region of Las Villas.

NEWS.

MADRID, February 1st.

Great praise is given to the Government of the Philippines because they have cleared the province of Balacan of rebels.

OBITUARY.

MADRID, February 1st.

Doña Luisa Fernanda de Bourbon y de Orleans is dead.

(Special to China Gazette.)

THE CAREW CASE.

Kobe, February 1st.

5.15 p.m.

Judge Mowat, in summing up the case, reviewed it in a very clear and able manner, but entirely against the prisoner. The jury retired for about 30 minutes and on their return informed the Judge that they had found the prisoner guilty. The prisoner had nothing to say to the usual question why sentence of death should not be passed. The Judge's delivery of judgment was extremely affected, and informed the prisoner's counsel that Sir E. M. Salow would have to review it. When the sentence of death had been passed, the Judge broke down and the final words could scarcely be heard. All present in the Court were greatly affected.

Kobe, February 4th.

3 p.m.

Sir Ernest Satow, the Minister, has commuted the sentence of death passed on Mrs. Carew to one of penal servitude with hard labour for life.

(Special to N. C. Daily News.)

THE EMPEROR AND LI.

Peking, January 29th.

Reports come from the Palace that Li Hung-chang is in high favour again with the Emperor, of whom he has had several informal audiences. Li's enemies are greatly disturbed, as it is believed that Li will be specially honoured at the coming New Year. It is expected that he will be made Senior Vice-President of the Board of War, under Prince Kung, or High Commissioner of the combined Peking and Nanyang Coast Defences and Superintendent of Trade. These offices are to be separated. It is reported, from the Chihli and Liang-Kiang Viceroys, and given to Li with headquarters at Tientsin, this new office discharging the functions of the former Admiralty Board. The decision rests with the Emperor, who has declared his intention of governing in future, and shaking himself free from the influence of his former advisers.

[A "communicated" leading article in the Peking and Tientsin Times of the 16th January deals with Li's position and influence. The writer says Li is not a favourite with the Emperor, who is unwilling to give him any more posts of honour or power, while his influence with the Foreign Ministers is probably less than at any time in the past.]

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

BOMBAY BOYCOTTING.

The inevitable "boycott" of the port of Bombay consequent on the alarming increase of the epidemic of plague there and quarantine restrictions placed on vessels calling from that plague-stricken port and Kutch has commenced, and this afternoon we received a notification from the local Agent of the Messageries Maritimes Co. to the effect that "the Company's steamers hitherto calling at Bombay on their way home will cease calling there until further notice."

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

REGIMENTAL SPORTS to-morrow.

It has been decided to make the Tientsin-Peking railway a double line.

A large Temperance Hall is to be built at Tientsin in the near future.

The Federal Convention of Australasia will be held in Melbourne on the 28th proximo.

The new treaty between Japan and Portugal was signed at Paris on the 26th January.

DR. MOORE-GRAHAM has been appointed Acting Consul for the Hawaiian Republic in Kobe.

We would remind our readers that the Volunteer Ball takes place at the City Hall to-morrow.

OUR Canton correspondent reports that the Lohk Authorities of the province of Kwangtung have raised the lekin on goods to transit since the first day of the Chinese New Year. So much for the recent proclamations in Kwangtung and Kwangsi!

The profits of the Yehsu Brewery Co., Ltd., of Tokio, for the past half-year amounted to \$70,000, and the shareholders received a dividend of 20 per cent, while \$43,410 were carried to reserve, and \$10,500 given as bonus to the employees of this flourishing concern.

The newly appointed Ambassador from China to the United States, Wu Ting-fan (Ng Choy) who has arrived in Hongkong en route for his new sphere of duty, is to be entertained at dinner at the Grill Rooms this evening by about 80 of the leading Chinese residents of the Colony.

MASTERS BUCHHEISTER & Co., says the Tientsin Times, were the successful competitors for a contract for 15,000 casks Portland cement, for delivery in March to the Imperial Chinese Railways, at Tongku, the brand being "Kilgilt, Bevan and Sturge," and the price Tls. 3.60 per cask.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., will be held at the Shanghai Club on 22nd instant, at 4.30 p.m. The Mercury learns that the Directors are going to propose a final dividend for 1896 of five per cent, making nine per cent for the year.

We have received the first copies of the *Shanghai Independent* in its English garb. The enterprising proprietor now issues English and native editions of his paper, which, although small, is neatly got up and is as readable and newsy as can be expected. We wish the *Independent* all success.

The Shanghai Daily News understands that at the meetings of the two Cargo Boat Companies, the Directors of the Cargo Boat Company declared a final dividend of 8 per cent, making 15 per cent for the year, and the Directors of the Co-operative Cargo Boat Company 9 per cent, making 14 per cent for the year.

The steamer *Tsima*, from Hongkong for Sydney, was quarantined at Thursday Island the other day because some of her passengers developed small-pox after she left Hongkong. The passengers were landed on Friday Island. No doubt the patients were Japanese, who brought the infection from Japan, where small-pox is now epidemic.

SEVERAL of our local wild birds have already commenced to "pair," among them the magpie and butcher-bird being most conspicuous. A good collection of Hongkong birds' eggs would be a most interesting and valuable addition to the City Hall Museum, as little or nothing has been done towards the classification of the birds of the colony. Undoubtedly a large number of species exist, but how many and of what families nobody appears to be able to say.

We regret very much to have to record the death at Silling, N.B., on the 13th of December of Mr. William Sharp Fraser, formerly of the New Oriental Bank Corporation. Mr. Fraser left Shanghai more than three years ago, and became ill soon after reaching home, and gradually dwindled away, to the grief of his relatives and his numerous friends, to whom he had endeared himself by his amiable and generous qualities and the patience with which he bore his illness.—N. C. Daily News.

YESTERDAY we drew attention to the peculiar colouring of the funnel of the new floating fire-engine and to-day we have another curiosity of the same kind to mention. The funnel of the steam-launch *Bella*, belonging to Bell's "Asbestos Eastern Agency," is of polished aluminium with a black painted top. We understand that the advantages claimed for this material over iron are its greater durability and lightness, but, at the same time, its thinness as compared with iron appears to warrant the supposition that it would be easily dented and rendered unsightly if subjected to any rough usage.

In spite of the weather having been so much against them of late, the Hongkong Colts are putting in as much practice at football as possible in order to be thoroughly prepared for the next round in the Football Challenge Shield Competition. What the team principally lacks, however, is weight and, in addition, one or two of the forwards and half-backs require drilling into keeping their places better during play. The team appears to be settling down to a steadier form, however, and we should not be very much surprised to see the skittish Colts punish some of the older and more fancied teams when the time comes.

SCENIC TO A PIECE OF RED TAPE.

The January number of our lively Shanghai contemporary the *Rattle* is full of most amusing matter and among other things of general interest it immortalises red-tape thusly:

"Then art the worm that frets public life, Sapping the strength of all initiatives; Thou art the serpent that engenders strife 'Tis trade and tax; thou biddest genius grovel Forgiven by a nation's governors, While facile fools that cling to thy red coil Win place and pelf. Thou art the blessed of bibles And praised of priests who spin not, neither toll But with thy loom thou also art the measure Of Law's delay and Brief's Authority; With thee do postillions banish leisure And play cards with reality!"

The impulse of free nature does thee bid, The giant's limbs, the serpent's prescient mind.

THE wines from the Coolalta Vineyards, Hunter River, N.S.W., are well known from one end of Australia to the other for their excellence and they have often been favourably compared with the famous privileges of the Old World. Mr. W. O. Campbell (representing Mr. J. A. Wilkinson, proprietor of Coolalta) is at present in Hongkong introducing the various brands and he has forwarded to this office samples of "extra" Burgundy, Hock, and Claret. The Burgundy is a fine full-bodied wine with capital flavour and rich bouquet; the Hock is a clear and tasty wine; and the claret is of a quality that long ago earned for it a high reputation among "dry" wines. The prices are very moderate, and there is no reason why an important trade in this direction should not be established between Australia and the Far East, and we hope soon to hear that Mr. Campbell has been successful.

R.M.S. *Porpoise*, returned from Canton this morning.

THE German cruiser *Prinzess Wilhelm* arrived here to-day.

A Russian Naval officer was arrested at noon to-day for trespassing within the fort limits at Kowloon.

MR. DUNCAN GLASS has been appointed acting manager of the Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Co.'s wharf.

THE yield of gold in Victoria (Australia) last year amounted to 807,087 ozs., which is the largest since 1884.

THE Tientsin Landowners' annual meeting took place on the 15th ult. The outgoing members of the Council were re-elected.

It may seem strange but it is, we are assured, nevertheless a fact that H.E. the General has actually decreed that "Tommy Atkins" shall be sold!

DR. C. J. Dudgeon has moved into a new house in the Celestial capital. He is still delaying his return home from Peking on account of translations and other urgent business.

THOMAS DALY, a leading seaman of H.M.S. *Porpoise*, died on board his ship on the 25th ult. at Nagasaki and was buried at Urakami Cemetery with full naval honours.

On the 20th January the Eagle Tobacco Factory in Sydney, a large four-storied building, was destroyed by fire, together with the contents. Ninety-eight tons of tobacco were burnt.

HERR G. MULLER-BECK, German Consul at Nagasaki, leaves for home in March on leave for nine months, and during his absence Herr Thiel, of the Kobe Consulate, will officiate for him.

THERE were no important cases at the Magistrate's to-day, the bulk of those heard being breaches of the "Cracker Ordinance," petty larceny, and unlawfully being in possession of small quantities of illicit opium.

A CENTURY ago small-pox destroyed 65,000 lives a year in Germany. The enforcement of compulsory vaccination with characteristic German thoroughness has reduced the average number to one hundred and fourteen per annum.

THE cruiser *Descartes* was commissioned at Brest on the 1st ultimo to replace the *Alger*, which returns to the Mediterranean from the Far East. The *Descartes* has been criticised adversely on the ground of want of stability.

THE Grand Secretary Li gave a dinner a few days ago to the foreign Ministers and Sir Robert Hart at the residence of Minister Chang. Mr. Chang, his interpreter Mr. Lang, and Li's private adviser, Mr. Peihlich, were the only other guests present.

THE Government of India have addressed the Amir of Kabul regarding the final arrangements for demarcating the Mohmand country. On receipt of His Highness's reply a Boundary Commission will be nominated for operations in the spring.

THE output of the Tongshan and Lint coal mines is most satisfactory, and the accounts are expected to be better than even in former years. The rate of output averages over 1,000 tons per day, which at the current rate gives a net profit of over Tls. 300,000, but Tls. 500,000 is thought to be nearer the figure.—*Mercury*.

THE paddle steamer *Kiangy* while on her way from Hankow to Shanghai recently collided with a salt junk. The collision, according to the *Mercury*, occurred at night just below Nanking, the junk striking the steamer on the port side about fifty feet forward of the paddle-box, and sliding along to the paddle-wheel carried away several of the floats before she drifted clear and sank. Three of the junkmen were drowned and another afterwards died from injuries received in the collision.

THE marriage of Mr. F. L. Crompton, the popular organist of Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, to Miss Alice H. Pond, the elder daughter of one of Shanghai's oldest and most respected residents, attracted a large number of their friends to the Cathedral on the 4th instant. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Katie Pond, and was given away by her father, Mr. J. H. Caven below the bridegroom's best man, Mr. and Mrs. Crompton arrived here by the *Misago* this morning.

FROM the *Shanghai Mercury* we learn that Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Harris had a narrow escape from drowning near Soochow. Their houseboat, which was being towed by a launch, crashed into some obstacle, probably a boat or bridge, and sank. The night was extremely dark when the accident occurred, and it was with the utmost difficulty that the occupants of the houseboat managed to reach their chartered launch. The cause of the accident still remains a mystery. We are glad to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Harris succeeded in escaping unharm.

On the evening of the 31st instant, says the *Mercury*, an important robbery and attack on shopkeepers was committed at Hongkong by a party of well-known Cantonese loafers. The robbers entered a shop in Seewoo Road and after being refused money for the China New Year festival, demanded fifty dollars under threat of personal violence. On this being refused they fled the till, severely handling the inmates of the shop, who were stabbed in different parts of the body. The robbers made their escape, but two were afterwards arrested by the Police.

The birthday of the Emperor of Germany, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, was quietly observed by the German residents of Kobe. They gathered at the Consulate at noon, where His Majesty's health was proposed in appropriate terms by the Consul, who in his remarks admirably summed up the situation in Germany—the classes on one hand striving for State support of their individual interests, and on the other the social question being to prominence. It was a time when great qualities were required to guide the "Ship of State" into the calm waters of peace and contentment, but this was being safely accomplished by their Majesty.

THAT a steamer should run into a lighthouse and even carry it away is one of the most curious of accidents. Yet this is what the *Aligator*, a small steamer running between the Clyde and the Lagan, has done in Belfast Lough. There the lights are on stilts, as in the Lower Thames, and the *Aligator* officially put one of the lights out and knocked over the whole concern, leaving the keeper and his wife to cling to the disappearing wreckage until another steamer took them off.

THE following Insurance Companies are, according to the Tientsin Times, interested in the recent big fire at Tientsin:

London and Lancashire, on contents of store	40,000
North British and Mercantile on contents of store	20,000
North British and Mercantile on buildings	9,500
The Phoenix, on contents of store	40,000
The Phoenix, on private effects	4,500
Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., on Merchandise in godowns	35,000
Total	Tls. 129,000

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING CO., LIMITED.

The eighth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the offices, Victoria Building, at noon to-day. Mr. Fullerton Henderson presided and there were also present Messrs. E. G. Jones, J. Gossman, J. H. Cox, F. Jordan, H. J. Holmes, and M. Stanford Northcote (acting secretary).

The report, which was taken as read, was as follows:—
The Directors now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the Company and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1896. The balance of profit and loss account for the year, after writing off all charges and expenses, amounted to \$5,234.12. The Directors, therefore, recommend that a dividend of 80 cents per share be paid, which, after writing off the Directors' and Auditors' fees, will leave a balance of \$46,121.20 to be carried forward to a new profit and loss account.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that it differed little from that of last year. The amount from rents was slightly larger than before, but the receipts from interest were less owing to having to provide funds for buildings. The profit and loss accounts were almost identical with last year's. Kowloon Terrace was fully occupied during the year and the new buildings, near Lyceum Pass, were almost completed and would be ready for occupation by contract time. Affairs seemed to be progressing on the other side of the water, with better roads and improved ferry service, for which new boats were shortly to be provided, and he had no doubt as to Kowloon maintaining its popularity. There would be no difficulty in raising that popularity, as one of the three new houses was taken and enquiries were being made for the other two. He would be glad to answer any questions regarding the report and balance sheet. Mr. Holmes said he wished to refer to the item "Accounts receivable." Perhaps, he said, it would be well for the public to know what the accounts were and if the assets were good ones. The Chairman said the sum of \$7,723.25 represented outstanding rents, which had since been received.

Mr. Holmes—That is most satisfactory. He then seconded the Chairman's motion for the adoption of the report and it was unanimously carried.

Messrs. F. Henderson and J. Gossman were re-elected Directors and Messrs. Thos. Arnold and W. H. Gossman auditors, the motions being proposed by Messrs. Georg and Holmes and Jordan respectively.

The dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

NEWS BY AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

LONDON, January 18th.
Fervent appeals have been made in the churches throughout America in favour of the Arbitration Treaty with Great Britain.

It is reported that the Spanish Government have adopted a scheme of reforms which are intended to give the way for the autonomy of the island, but these reforms are to be granted without any surrender of imperial power.

The Sultan has consented to the appointment of a joint European and Turkish Commission to control the Budget and public expenditure in Turkey.

The mortality from the bubonic plague in Bombay now averages 150 deaths per day, and it is still increasing.

SYDNEY, January 19th.
Cardinal Moran's candidature for the Federal Convention, which is to be held in Sydney, is a subject of interest in New South Wales, and some fear is expressed that sectarian bitterness will be aroused if he proceeds with his candidature.

BRISBANE, January 19th.
William White Watson, formerly of Brisbane, who was arrested at Capetown, South Africa, on a charge of being implicated with Richard Oliver in the alleged misappropriation of a sum of about £3,000, arrived in Brisbane by the steamer *Tyrus* yesterday afternoon.

Heavy vessels Young, a sugar-planter near Bundaberg, has committed suicide by shooting himself through the head.

A serious fire has occurred at Coolgardie, which destroyed a large number of business premises.

There are now 1,000 patients under treatment in the hospital at Coolgardie.

BRISBANE, January 19th.
The half-yearly report of the Queensland National Bank shows a net loss of £1,607, which sum, being deducted from the previous half-year's balance, will leave £45,242 to be carried forward to the next half-year. The report states that negotiations are now being carried on with British depositors for an equitable scheme of arrangement with respect to the bank's deferred payments, which are proceeding satisfactorily. At the next ordinary general meeting all the present directors retire from office.

SYDNEY, January 19th.
The conference between the marine engineers and the steamship owners was brought to an abrupt termination by the withdrawal of the engineers' representatives, who considered the reply of the owners to their statements as unsatisfactory.

The matters in dispute will now for the present remain in abeyance and the engineers will deal with them in their own way; but whether these rules will be accepted by the men remains for future decision.

LONDON, January 20th.

The House of Parliament were opened for business to-day.

Mr. John Dillon has been re-elected leader of the Irish party.

During the debate on the Address-in-reply in the House of Commons Sir William Harcourt strongly urged the financial claims of Ireland.

It is reported that the Spanish gunboat *Atalaya* has been sunk by a torpedo in the Canto River in Cuba, six persons being killed and a number wounded.

News comes to hand of an earthquake at Kildine, in Persia, which has caused 2,500 deaths.

SYDNEY, January 20th.

A large number of Armenian refugees have arrived in Sydney.

A search party who had gone out some time ago to search for relics of the *La Perouse* voyagers has failed to discover any traces of them. They are Frenchmen and are supposed to have been lost in the neighbourhood of the Santa Cruz group. Another party is to be sent out.

MELBOURNE, January 20th.
William Miles Phillips, who was arrested in Melbourne on suspicion of having murdered William Brady, whose body was found on the premises of Messrs. Cooper and Sons, has confessed his guilt and given details of the crime.

LONDON, January 21st.
Owing to the hostile attitude of the Bechuanaland natives, the people of Vryburg in British Bechuanaland have petitioned the Government to disarm them immediately.

January 22nd.
Remter's agency learns that the galleons at Dabbeh, Kory, and Meravi will advance early in the summer and take Abu Hamed and Terbet, preparatory to the subsequent movement on Khartoum.

Mr. Hornby, Minister for Blackbore, in a speech to his constituents, said that it is the

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING CO., LIMITED.

The eighth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the offices, Victoria Building, at noon to-day. Mr. Fullerton Henderson presided and there were also present Messrs. E. G. Jones, J. Gossman, J. H. Cox, F. Jordan, H. J. Holmes, and M. Stanford Northcote (acting secretary).

The report, which was taken as read, was as follows:—
The Directors now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the Company and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1896. The balance of profit and loss account for the year, after writing off all charges and expenses, amounted to \$5,234.12. The Directors, therefore, recommend that a dividend of 80 cents per share be paid, which, after writing off the Directors' and Auditors' fees, will leave a balance of \$46,121.20 to be carried forward to a new profit and loss account.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that it differed little from that of last year. The amount from rents was slightly larger than before, but the receipts from interest were less owing to having to provide funds for buildings. The profit and loss accounts were almost identical with last year's. Kowloon Terrace was fully occupied during the year and the new buildings, near Lyceum Pass, were almost completed and would be ready for occupation by contract time. Affairs seemed to be progressing on the other side of the water, with better roads and improved ferry service, for which new boats were shortly to be provided, and he had no doubt as to Kowloon maintaining its popularity. There would be no difficulty in raising that popularity, as one of the three new houses was taken and enquiries were being made for the other two. He would be glad to answer any questions regarding the report and balance sheet. Mr. Holmes said he wished to refer to the item "Accounts receivable." Perhaps, he said, it would be well for the public to know what the accounts were and if the assets were good ones. The Chairman said the sum of \$7,723.25 represented outstanding rents, which had since been received.

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INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The Committee of the Indian Famine Relief Fund has the honor to acknowledge the following subscriptions, amounting to \$12,945. Those who have not yet subscribed and who wish to do so will find lists to the various banks, stores, and Clubs in the colony.

T. JACKSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$2,500

Janling, Matheson & Co., 2,000

F. D. Sisson & Co., 1,000

Belmont & Co., 1,000

David Sassoon, Sons & Co., 1,000

Butterfield & Swire, 750

Stearns & Co., 500

Melchers & Co., 500

Arachid, Karberg & Co., 500

Shaw, Tomes & Co., 500

Carlson & Co., 500

Reiss & Co., 500

For the Yokohama Specie Bank

Shanghai, Nao Nabeika, 500

Li Sing, 500

Loan D. Humphreys & Son, 500

Dodwell, Carill & Co., 500

H. E. Pollock, 500

S. J. David & Co., 500

Reuter, Brockmann & Co., 500

Douglas Laprak & Co., 500

Benjamin, Kelly & Potts, 500

T. Jackson, 500

Sperry Flour Co., 500

Lane, Crawford & Co., 500

Rader & Co., 500

Sander & Co., 500

M. S. Sassoon & Co., 500

Harling, Buschman & Manell, 500

Gilman & Co., 500

A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., 500

Victor H. Deacon, 500

Gibb, Livingston & Co., 500

Caldbeck, Macgregor &

